30-6-1988 की अधिसूचना के तहत 15 करोड़ रु० मूल्य से कम के निवेध वाले कताई एककों को कुछ मतों के अध्यधीन गैर-लाइसेंसीकृत कर दिया जाता है।

Ban on Opening of Accounts by Indians in Foreign Banks

211. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to put a complete ban on the Indian citizens to open accounts in foreign banks; and

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) The current Exchange Control Regulations already prohibit persons resident in India, unless specifically permitted by Reserve Bank of India, from opening accounts abroad.

Withdrawal of show cause notice served on Reliance Industries Limited

212. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the press report which appreared in the Indian Express of 7th February, 1989 to the effect that Bombay Customs Collectorate had in February, 1987 served a show cause notice on RIL (Reliance Industries Limited), after an on-the-spot verification of its plant at Patalganga, threatening it with a penalty of Rs. 880 crores and confiscation of the plant;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the order has since been withdrawn;

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government propose to inquire into the matter and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The facts are that a "show cause" notice was issued by the Deputy Collector of Customs, Bombay on 10.2.1987 to Ms. Reliance Industries Limited, alleging unauthorised importation of Plant and machinery, and alleged misdeclaration and under-invoicing of goods involving alleged evasion of duty of Rs. 119.64 crores. The show cause also required Reliance Industries Ltd. to explain liability to confiscation of the goods unauthorisedly imported and liability to penalty under the Customs Act, 1962;

(b) to (d) The above show cause notice was adjudicated by the Collector of Customs, Bombay and an adjudication order was issued on 31.1.1989 holding that the charges contained in the show cause notice were not established and should, therefore, be dropped. Further steps will be taken as prescribed under the procedure laid down in the Customs Act, 1962.

Coca Cola Project

213. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2589-C given in the Rajya Sabha on the 1st December, 1988 and state :.

(a) whether Government have since granted permission to Coca Cola, a fore ign company, to start its business in India;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) how far it will affect the Indian soft drink industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Smuggling of Heroin into India

214. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(i) whether it is a fact that heroin smuggling into India from foreign countries and particularly from Pakistan is on the increase;

(b) what is the quantity of heroin seized during the last three years, year-wise and

(c) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to stop this evil?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. From the quantities of heroin seized during the last three years, as given below, it could be seen that nearly 80% - 90% has emanated from the Near and Middle East, including Pakistan. Bracketed figures indicate the quantities of Golden Crescent origin :

(Quantity in Kilograms)

	1986	1987	1988	1989 (January)
Heroin	2,621 (2,296)	2,747 (2,301)	2,984 (2,433)	540 (528)

Government have launched various aggressive counter-measures which, *inter alia*, include provision of deterrent punishments against drug-traffickers, strengthening of preventive and intelligence machinery (especially around borders and vulnerable areas), adoption of a liberalised reward scheme for officers and informers, strengthening of bilateral co-operation between neighbouring countries (including regional co-operation under the aegis of SAARC). The Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1988 provides for preventive detention upto a maximum period of two years for drug-related offenes. 244 persons have so far been detained under the said Act.

Further, the police officers of the North-Eastern States have been entrusted the functions of the Customs Officers under the Customs Act, 1962 for the purpose of the provisions of Chapter IVB of that Act.

An Indo-Pak. Committee to combat drug trafficking and smuggling has also been constituted for the purpose.

The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Amendment) Act, 1988, recently passed by Parliament, *inter alia*, provides for death penalty on second conviction in respect of specified offences involving specified quantities of certain drugs and also forfeiture of property of drug offenders. Besides, all drug-related offences have been made cognizable and non-bailable.

Clandestine Import of Polyester Filament Yarn Plant by Reliance Industries Limited

215. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER: SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a case of clandestine import of polyester filament yarn plant by Reliance Industries Limited, involving crores of rupees has been dropped by the Bombay Customs Collectoratc even though a show cause notice imposing penalty had been issued after an on-the-spot verification of the plant;

(b) whether it is also a fact that on an earlier occasion also Government had decided not to proceed against Reliance